

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APRIL 26, 2010

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, April 26th, 2010 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Jodi Harr, Deputy Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance. Deborah Adams, Auditor, was unable to attend.

Commissioner Tom Barnes called the meeting to order. Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 12th meeting as presented. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMA

Mike Ooley, EMA Director, updated the commissioners on new grants. SHSP 2009 grant has been submitted. It is for Web EOC and 800 mega hertz radios. SHSP 2010 grant will be a telecommunications grant. GIS grant is complete.

Ooley also presented an email to the commissioners from the Director of Indiana State & Federal Surplus office. There will be several pages of military equipment coming out of Iraq over the next several months. In preparation for being eligible to purchase this equipment, Rush County must complete the renewal application for the Federal Surplus Property Program. Ooley is completing the application but needs a letter from the commissioners stating the EMA Office is a public agency being supported with public funds. The commissioners asked the auditor to prepare this letter.

SOLID WASTE

Carole Yeend, Rush County Solid Waste Director, reported that another successful E-Scrap was held Saturday, April 24. Another trailer load of electronics was gathered.

MILROY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Nick White from the Milroy Fire Department thanked the commissioners for their support of the ambulance service and asked if there was anything the fire department needed to do between now and the end of the six month trial period. Commissioner Barnes stated they had no complaints.

PREVENTATIVE COURTHOUSE AGREEMENT

Commissioner Barnes noted that TurnKey was the successful bidder for the preventative courthouse maintenance agreement. He will be doing a walk through of the courthouse with TurnKey today at 1:00 p.m. before signing the contract. County Attorney Leigh Morning will prepare the contract for signature by the commissioners at their May 10, 2010 commissioner meeting.

SHERIFF

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported 46 inmates currently being housed in the Rush County jail. Six (6) inmates are sentenced and four (4) are DOC inmates.

Sherwood notified the commissioners that Rushville City Mayor Bostic has asked for trustee labor to paint and insulate at the dog pound. They will be needed in about three weeks. He does have the trustees to do the work.

Commissioner Masters asked the sheriff to have trustee labor clean up trash at the wooded area at Six Points in the northern part of the county. Jerry Sitton stated he thought the Boy Scouts cleaned this area over the weekend. Masters will check on it.

Duane Raab presented a new grant from the Indiana Criminal Institute. The state is going to require the jail be able to video and audio record interviews. This grant is up to \$10,000 with a \$1,000 match. Sheriff Sherwood stated he does have the matching funds in his budget. Raab has a quote from *My Record* in the amount of \$12,771 but is waiting on another quote which he feels will be lower. Commissioner Cole made the motion to sign the grant application. Commissioner Masters seconded. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, ask the commissioners to sign two consulting agreements with Butler Fairman.

Commissioner Cole made the motion and Commissioner Masters seconded to sign the consulting agreement between Rush County and Butler Fairman for Bridge #143 at 725 W over Mudd Creek. Motion carried. Also, Sitton should know by April 28 if the county will get additional funding from the state for this bridge due to increasing costs. The bridge should be completed in June.

Commissioner Masters made the motion and Commissioner Cole seconded to sign the consulting agreement between Rush County and Butler Fairman for Bridge #158 and Bridge #159 which are south of Hwy 52 over branches of Little Flatrock River. Motion carried.

Construction on Bridge #116 and Bridge #117 over Little Blue River should start within thirty days.

Moscow Covered Bridge project is moving along. The crane should be at the site this Wednesday to set one side of the bridge. It will be approximately four (4) weeks before the other side will be ready to set.

County Attorney Leigh Morning presented Ordinance 2010-2 establishing a temporary maximum speed limit of 30 MPH on 200N between State Rd 3 and Ft Wayne Road and on Ft Wayne Road between 300 N and the city limits. A motion was made by Ken Masters and seconded by Marvin Cole to approve the temporary reduced speed limit. Motion carried.

INSERT ORDINANCE HERE

COUNTY EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Jerry Sitton representing the county health insurance committee updated the commissioners on the renewal of county employee health insurance. After the six (6) month review, the committee asked Sitton to contact Rush Memorial Hospital regarding employee discounts for using their facilities. He met with Brad Smith and Karen Meyer of Rush Memorial to discuss how to lead county employees to Rush Memorial Hospital. The county can receive a better discount if the local doctors and facilities are used more. Routzahn Agency, who is the counties current insurance broker, was notified of the information gathered at the meeting between Sitton and Rush Memorial Hospital. Sitton also provided the information to APEX Benefits Group. The county health insurance committee made a unanimous decision to recommend to the commissioners to change the counties insurance broker from Routzahn Agency to APEX Benefits Group and to terminate its contract with third party administrator Key Benefits.

Based on recommendations from the health insurance committee, the commissioners made the following motions:

- Commissioner Masters made the motion to terminate the counties contract with Routzahn Agency effective April 30, 2010. Commissioner Cole seconded. Motion carried. County Attorney, Leigh Morning, had a letter prepared for the commissioners to sign.
- Ken Masters made the motion to hire APEX as the counties new insurance broker. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Cole made the motion to give the required ninety (90) day notice to terminate the contract with Key Benefits as the Third Party Administrator. Motion carried. County Attorney, Leigh Morning, had a letter prepared for the commissioners to sign.
- Masters made a motion to sign the Professional Services Agreement and Business Associate Agreement between Rush County and Apex Benefits Group Inc. Cole seconded. Motion carried. The addendum to the Professional Services Agreement was given to Auditor, Deborah Adams, on Thursday, April 22. She is to complete it and return it to Jerry Sitton prior to the next insurance committee meeting. Sitton will let Adams know when the meeting will be and he requested that Adams or her payroll deputy attend the meeting.

It was also noted that the insurance committee has not made any changes to the health insurance benefits at this time. The intention is to possibly add a third tier to the benefits for using Rush Memorial Hospital and its providers.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Leigh Morning, County Attorney, notified the commissioners that effective June 1, 2010 she will be opening her own law office and will no longer be a part of Earnest, Foster, Eder, Levi and Northam. Her office will be located at 226 N. Main Street. She does wish to continue as county attorney. A motion was made by Ken Masters to retain Morning as the county attorney after her separation from Earnest, Foster, Eder, Levi and Northam. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AREA PLAN

Bill Todd, Area Plan Director, reported that he has received a letter from Sidwell regarding the cost of services to update the zoning maps. He has the money in his budget to pay for this. The project is moving forward.

Todd reported that he attended a seminar on April 20th regarding how to maintain and certify levies. The levy around our county must be certified. The FEMA Regional Office in Chicago has been working on our certification. It will be several months before our levy will be credited but no problems are expected. Yearly inspections have been done locally and problem areas such as trees have been corrected. If the county is not certified, property owners who are required to have flood insurance will notice an increase in their rates. Todd is the contact person with FEMA regarding the levy for the county and city.

CONSERVATION CLUB

Commissioner Barnes reported on the status of drainage issues at the Rush County Conservation Club. The county has a contract with the conservation club. The conservation club previously subleased the grounds to the Pioneer Engine Club. After the Pioneer Engine Club no longer used the grounds, the drainage issues became more apparent. The county has met with the conservation club, also known as the Gun Club, and asked for the conservation club to release some of the land back to the county to be used by the county highway department and for the county to correct the drainage issues. An agreement was made between the county, the Gun Club and county highway department for the west drive to be shared by county highway department and the gun club. The county highway department will take care of the drainage issues at no cost to the Gun Club or to taxpayers. The Gun Club will remain where it is. Ken Masters made a motion to have the land surveyed and for the preparation of a contract to be prepared by the county attorney. Marvin Cole seconded. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

Jodi Harr, Deputy Auditor, received approval of payroll claims for the period ending April 30th on a motion by Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.

Bi-weekly claims were approved on a motion by Marvin Cole, seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried. John Saxton, concerned citizen questioned claims for Belle Terra Resort and Hilton Hotel. Both of these claims are for State called meetings of the Treasurer and Auditor.

MISC

- The new license plate and registration were received for the van used by the Coroner's Office. A motion was made by Marvin Cole and seconded by Ken Masters to sign the registration. Motion carried.
- Official Bond in the amount of \$15,000 was received for Patricia Muir. A motion by Ken Masters and seconded by Marvin Cole was made to sign the bond. Motion carried.
- Official Bond in the amount of \$15,000 was received for Patricia Norris. A motion by Marvin Cole and seconded by Ken Masters was made to sign the bond. Motion carried.
- A request was received from the Relay for Life Committee to place purple bulbs in the courthouse clock tower for the month of June 2010. They will purchase the bulbs. A motion was made by Ken Masters to allow the purple bulbs purchased by Relay for Life to be placed in the clock tower by Marvin Rees. Motion was seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.
- A tort claim notice was received from Ken Nunn Law Office on behalf of Terry and Martha Adkins.

Motion to adjourn was received from Ken Masters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Barnes, Chairman

Marvin Cole

Ken Masters

ATTEST:

Deborah C. Adams, Auditor